

IN THE CLAIMS

Amended claims follow. Insertions are underlined, while deletions are struck out. The status of each claim is included prior to each heading.

1. (Currently Amended) A computerized method for automatically configuring a firewall operating within an individual computer comprising:

determining a zone for a network address dynamically assigned to a network adapter in the individual computer; and

associating a security policy for the zone with the network adapter, the security policy specifying the firewall configuration to protect the individual computer;

wherein the security policy is defined by a policy file which includes a policy file data structure stored as an XML (extensible markup language) document;

wherein a security policy section of the policy file data structure includes an entry for each security policy that is identified by a policy identifier field and is associated with a network protocol that is identified by a protocol identifier field;

wherein the security policy section specifies filters for at least a portion of ports and services defined by the network protocol, and each port and service associated with the security policy is identified by an element identifier field, a field containing filter settings, and a log indicator field;

wherein at least one security policy is included for a TCP/IP network and includes a PPTP (point-to-point tunneling protocol), a RIP (routing information protocol), a DHCP (dynamic host configuration protocol), an ARP (address resolution protocol), an Ident (identification protocol), ICMP (internet control message protocol) and VPN (virtual private networking) ports, and a NetBIOS (network basic input/output system) service;

wherein a default setting for a high security policy on the TCP/IP network disallows incoming network traffic through the PPTP and ICMP ports, allows incoming network traffic through the RIP, DHCP, ARP and VPN ports, disallows access through the NetBIOS service to shared resources on the individual computer, and disallows the individual computer from using shared resources of other computers on the TCP/IP network, where incoming network traffic that attempts to access the individual computer using PPTP and NetBIOS is logged;

Please enter claims.
-Azizul
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